

## CLAIMS

1. A surge arrester (1) comprising
- 5 a stack (10) of a plurality of cylindrical varistor blocks (10a), preferably made of metal oxide, which are arranged one after the other in the axial direction of the varistor blocks (10a),
- 10 an upper end electrode (11) and a lower end electrode (12),
- clamping members (15) of insulating material comprising at least three loops (15a) of continuously wound fibre, which connect the upper end electrode (11) to the lower end elec-
- 15 trode (12),
- a bursting-protective bandage (16) in the form of a plurality of rings or bands (16a) wound of fibre, and
- 20 a surrounding, electrically insulating, outer casing (19) of rubber or other polymeric material,
- characterized** in that
- 25 the loops (15a) are wound of glass fibre and exhibit an asymmetrical cross section.
2. A surge arrester (1) according to claim 1,
- characterized** in that the asymmetrical cross sections of the
- 30 loops (15a) are shaped and located so that not only two corners, one on either strand, make contact with the varistor stack (10).
3. A surge arrester (1) according to claim 1,
- 35 **characterized** in that the asymmetrical cross sections of the loops (15a) are adapted to increase the contact surface against the varistor stack (10).
4. A surge arrester (1) according to claim 1,

**characterized** in that the asymmetrical cross sections of the loops (15a) are adapted to shorten the free span of the rings or bands (16a) inside the loops (15a).

5 5. A surge arrester (1) according to claim 1,  
**characterized** in that the asymmetrical cross sections of the loops (15a) are adapted to enable the rings or bands (16a) to be wound closer to the stack (10).

10 6. A surge arrester (1) according to claim 1,  
**characterized** in that the asymmetrical cross sections of the loops (15a) are adapted such that the shapes of the rings or bands (16a) become approximately circular.

15 7. A surge arrester (1) according to claim 1,  
**characterized** in that the cross sections of the loops (15a) essentially correspond to two mirror-inverted rhombs or rhomboids (V, H).

20 8. A surge arrester (1) according to any of the preceding claims, **characterized** in that the rings or bands (16a) are wound of aramide fibre or PBO fibre with an epoxy or vinyl ester matrix.

25

30

35